

Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of October 10-14, 2011:

Candidates Forum on Wednesday: The Takoma Voice will host a candidate forum on Wednesday, October 19, at 7 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. The forum will be shown on City TV and may be viewed online live and later through archived video. (City Clerk)

Voter Registration: Voter registration for the November 8 City election is now closed. (City Clerk)

Absentee Ballots: Applications are now being accepted for residents wishing to vote by absentee ballot. Completed applications to receive a ballot in the mail must be filed with the Clerk by 4 p.m., on November 1. Upon verification of a voter's eligibility, an absentee ballot will be issued—either by mail or in person. After November 1, a voter should apply in person. The application may be printed from http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/election/2011/ab_app_fillable_2011.pdf. Additional information about the election is available at <http://takomaparkmd.gov/2011cityelection/index.html>. (City Clerk)

Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of October 17, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, October 17, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, Tuesday, October 18, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Board of Elections meeting, Wednesday, October 19, 7 p.m. in the Azalea Room
- Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, Thursday, October 20, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room

Commercial/Residential Zones Adopted: The County Council adopted a zoning text amendment to the Commercial/Residential Zones, finalizing changes such as reducing the number of points required by smaller properties. The full text may be viewed online at www.theNewAve.com. (Housing and Community Development)

Long Branch Sector Plan (Ward 5): The Long Branch Sector Plan has been delayed due to recent staffing changes at the Montgomery County Planning Department. The project has not been reassigned as of this date. Information on this project is available online at <http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/longbranch/> (Housing and Community Development)

The New Ave Community Garden Grant (Wards 2, 3, & 6): The City offers assistance to groups interested in community gardening and greening on New Hampshire Avenue. To date the City has provided grants for five projects on public and private land along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor. Applications are open until January 31, 2012 and can be obtained at <http://www.thenewave.com/files/docs/application-community-gardens.pdf>. For more information contact Erkin Ozberk at 301-891-7213 or ErkinO@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

Bike Share to be presented to County Council - Oct 17: The Montgomery County Dept of Transportation, with input from HCD staff, has been investigating the possible implementation of a Bike Share program in the area. Its initial finding will be presented to the Montgomery County Council Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy & Environment (T&E) Committee on Monday, Oct 17. (Housing and Community Development)

Complete Streets Presentation - October 20: The Montgomery County Planning Department's Celebrating MoCo Speaker Series will be presenting "Complete Streets - Redefining Expectations for Our Public Investment," at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 20, at 8787 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring. The techniques discussed on how to transform public rights-of-way so they can achieve their full potential will be considered by the City as we begin work on the upcoming Flower Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue Streetscape Standards, and Ethan Allen Gateway projects. (Housing and Community Development)

Plant a Tree Sale: Don't miss this Fall's opportunity to plant trees for less. The bulk buy order deadline is Monday, October 17. The City is offering a \$100 subsidy bringing the cost of the first tree purchased to \$100.70. Additional trees can be purchased at the reduced price of \$206.70 each. The trees are nursery stock quality and warranted for 1 year. Order form is available on page 12 of the October Newsletter, which can be accessed via the city's website. (Public Works)

New Planner: The Housing and Community Development Department welcomes Erkin Ozberk to fill the planning position vacated by Carman Lam. Erkin received his planning degree from York University in Toronto, Ontario and has worked most recently for the National Building Museum on their youth program "Investigating Where We Live" and the City of Toronto conducting land use and business employment surveys. Prior to attending graduate school he worked for the Carbonfund.org Foundation in Silver Spring, MD. (Housing and Community Development)

Drop the Knife (Tonight): A Memoir-in-Song: "We are Takoma" presents singer/songwriter and former Takoma Park resident Jeanne Mackey's "Drop the Knife: A Memoir-in-Song." A disarmingly honest and wryly funny musical chronicle of Mackey's search for personal and ancestral healing, from the high desert of the Eastern Sierras to the verdant Irish countryside, written on the occasion of her 60th birthday last year. Friday, October 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Free Event - Suggested Donation \$10 to \$15. <http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=106861569421772> (Housing and Community Development)

The ULiners in Concert (Tomorrow): Described as "Woody Guthrie meets Merle Haggard meets Jerry Garcia" the U Liners provide the best in roots rock music and songs of our time. Performing in this Takoma Park based band are Joe Uehlein on guitar, Avril Smith on the guitar and mandolin, Mindy Mc Williams on the fiddle, Barry Warsaw on bass, and percussionist Larry Ferguson. The music begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 15 in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. <http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=120133681427211> (Housing and Community Development)

Third Thursday Poetry Reading - Oct 20: Featured at this month's poetry reading are Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler and poets Kathleen O'Toole and Bonnie Naradzay. Reading begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium on Thursday, Oct 20. (Housing and Community Development)

The Apricot Tree - Oct 21: Opening reception and silent auction on Friday, October 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center. Meet featured artists Shannon Gerrity and Claudia Krizay and enjoy the original paintings created for their children's fairy tale, "The Apricot Tree." A silent auction of their work will be held the night of the reception. <http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=288533771174687> (Housing and Community Development)

New Chamber Music Series - Oct 21: "We are Takoma" welcomes the Washington Music Viva! Experience the beauty and romance of the classical music of Johannes Brahmas and Amy Beach on Friday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Program will include Trio in B major Op. 8 by Johannes Brahmas and Trio Op. 150 by Amy Beach. Tickets available at the door. <http://dcmusicaviva.org> (Housing and Community Development)

The Day of the Dead - Oct 29: Join us later this month as we celebrate "Dia de Los Muertos" - a traditional holiday dedicated to the remembrance of one's ancestors. Create your own personal 'shrine' to a beloved memory on Saturday, October 29 at 1 p.m. in the Art Room. The festivities continue that evening with a free performance by the De Colores Mexican Folk Dance Company of DC at 7:30 p.m. It's all at the Takoma Park Community Center. (Housing and Community Development)

French Circle Time: Our unique French Circle Time program will take place on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. Join Madame Marie in singing French rhymes and songs. No registration required. (Library)

Caldecott Club: Calling all picture book lovers – kids and adults! Come on Monday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. and check out some possibilities for the 2012 Caldecott Medal, which will be awarded in January by a group of librarians to the best illustrated children's book of the year. We'll use our special ELMO document camera to read possible Caldecott Medal winners on the big screen, talk about what we like (and don't!), and then take a vote. We'll meet again in November and December to look at more possibilities, and have a final meeting in January to discuss the book that actually wins. This program, best for preschoolers and older, is a great opportunity for families to come together to read and discuss some wonderful books! Registration is encouraged, but not required; to register, please go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. (Library)

Friends of the Library Book Sale: Mark your calendars for our ever-popular Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library Book Sale on Saturday October 22 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. These book sales, held twice a year, in spring and fall, represent the most significant source of fund-raising for the Friends. All proceeds go to the Library in the form of gifts, funding programs like the Spanish and French Circle Times, and our new online resources. Books for the sale include new review copies as well as gently-used books – all at great prices! We still need volunteers to help set up and clean up before and after the sale, and to assist with sales. Service learning hours are available to teens who volunteer. Those interested in volunteering for two (or more)-hour shifts between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on the day of the sale should contact Library Director Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takoma.gov. (Library)

"Big Book" Reading Group: The Friends of the Library's "Big Book" Reading Group will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. to continue discussion of John Fowles' "Daniel Martin." The meeting will be held in the Third Floor Atrium of the Community Center, and all are welcome. (Library)

History Presentation for Seniors: A dozen seniors attended the October 12th presentation by Courtney Hobson, the new Outreach and Tour Coordinator for Darnall's Chance House and Museum in Upper Marlboro. Ms Hobson, dressed in period costume, offered a 45 minute PowerPoint presentation on the colonial history of Prince George's County. The program, entitled "Prince George's County: An 18th Century Perspective" covers the founding of Maryland as a colony, the types of people who made up the colony, it's economy, the founding of Prince George's County, and some of the 18th Century architecture that still stands in the county. This history presentation precedes our trip to Darnall's Chance House Museum in December 2011. (Recreation)

Seniors Go Shopping: Shop till you drop! Seniors requested this trip so away we went on the Recreation Bus. Twenty seniors shopped and had lunch at a fabulous outlet center in Leesburg, Virginia, on October 14. (Recreation)

Services for Seniors: Anita A. Joseph, Client Assistance Specialist, Montgomery County Aging and Disability Services, was on site at the Takoma Park Community Center on Tuesday, October 11 and Thursday October 13, to meet Takoma Park seniors, and to talk to the seniors about the services and resources available to them. (Recreation)

"Go Deep" Flag Football Program – Rained out: Heavy rainfall forced the Recreation Department to cancel the flag football program this past Wednesday. All participants were notified of the cancellation and program has been extended an additional week. Program will resume on October 19. (Recreation)

Winter Basketball League – Volunteers needed: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for spirited and dedicated people to volunteer as coaches, game clock attendants, officials and score keepers. No experience is necessary as training is provided. For additional information on how to volunteer please contact Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

Tennis Clinic – Let's Move: This past Tuesday, the participants in the Takoma Park tennis clinic proudly participated in the First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" exercise initiative. Time was set aside during both the 3:45pm and 4:45pm sessions to see how many jumping jacks could be completed prior to exhaustion. The 3:45pm session (ages 7-9) had a total of 15 people to participate (13 youth and 2 adults); they were able to achieve a total of 20 jumping jacks a piece. The 4:45pm session (ages 10-12) had a total of 11 people to participate (9 youth and 2 adults); this group was able to complete 25 jumping jacks each. Congratulations to all that participated. (Recreation)

Karate Self-Defense Special Demonstration: A special demonstration was performed by Isshin-Ryu Karate from Okinawa. Sensei Paul J. Cote, Renshi-Go5, served as the guest instructor. There is space available for this FREE program. If interested, please contact John Webster @ 301-891-7289 for more information. (Recreation)

DJ Training for Teens: Teens who love music and are interested in learning how to DJ are welcomed to join DJ Kilo Vibes as he teaches teens 12 - 17 how to DJ. During this six week training teens will learn how to use the equipment, become familiar with music theory, basic mixing and scratching. Training will take place in the TP Community Center Media Lab every Tuesday from 5pm - 6pm beginning October 18, 2011. Takoma Park residents are free; non residents \$30. Space is limited but still available. Register on-line (DJ Training) or in person at the Takoma Park Community Center. (Recreation)

Crime Reports: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (October 7-13, 2011) may be viewed online at: http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/10/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_13.html. (Police)

Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 161 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four vehicle impounds and 10 arrests from traffic. (Police)

Meetings:

October 12, Chief Ricucci and Crime Analyst Gucciardo attended a community meeting on Garland Avenue concerning the recent burglaries.

October 13, Chief Ricucci welcomed State's Attorney John McCarthy to the second session of the Citizen's Academy, which he addressed.

October 16, Chief Ricucci will attend and address the 2nd Annual Takoma Park Police Alumni Reunion in Howard County.

Training:

October 11 and 10-13, various sworn personnel attended Defensive Tactics Training at the Takoma Academy.

October 12 and 10-13, Lt. Collington and Sgt. Frishkorn attended training entitled "GEOCELL" Cell Phone Investigations in Baltimore, Maryland.

During October 11-12, 2011, the following details were completed:

October 11, 2011 - Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations and one warning.

October 12, 2011 -

Maple Avenue & Lincoln Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.

Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

Anne Street & Hammond Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one warning.

Maple Avenue at Tulip Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a two hour detail and issued eight State citations and three warnings.

7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.

Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes): Week of 10/7/11 - 10/13/11

Calls for service: 9

State Citations issued: 56

City tickets: 7

Reports: 5

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 2

Warnings: 7

Training: 6.5 hours